



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Emergency Management

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DISASTER FIELD OFFICE
7401 Timberlake Road
LYNCHBURG, VA 24502
FEMA-1458-DR-VA
Commonwealth Situation Report #5
Friday, April 5, 2003

1. OPERATIONAL PERIOD:

12:00 AM *Saturday*, April 5, 2003, through 12:00 AM *Sunday*, April 6, 2003. (*New Information is in italics*)

2. SITUATION:

A major winter storm struck Virginia beginning February 15 causing major flooding in Southwest Virginia and significant ice and snowfall in the Shenandoah Valley and areas of Northern Virginia. The weather pattern continued to bring warmer temperatures, melting snow/ice and more heavy rainfall, which combined to cause more local flooding.

Governor Mark R. Warner declared a State of Emergency on February 16, 2003, to speed state agency assistance and resources to localities in need. The counties of Accomack, Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Essex, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester declared emergencies.

The Governor requested the federal Public Assistance program (PA) on February 28th for snow and/or flooding for the following localities: the counties of Albemarle, Arlington, Bland, Buchanan, Clarke, Craig, Culpeper, Dickenson, Essex, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Grayson, Greene, Highland, Lee, Louisa, Loudoun, Madison, Orange, Prince William, Rappahannock, Russell, Scott, Shenandoah, Stafford, Spotsylvania, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Alexandria, Charlottesville, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas, Manassas Park, Norton, Richmond, Salem and Winchester.

The Governor requested the federal Individual Assistance program (IA) on March 4 for these winter storm events in the counties of Augusta, Buchanan, Dickenson, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Madison, Montgomery, Prince William, Roanoke including the Town of Vinton, Russell, Shenandoah, Tazewell, Warren, Wise and Wythe and the cities of Norton, Roanoke, Salem and Winchester.

A Major Presidential Disaster Declaration (FEMA-1458-DR-VA) was declared on March 27, 2003. The counties of Buchanan, Dickenson, Montgomery, Russell, Tazewell and Wise and the cities of Norton, Roanoke and Salem were designated for Individual Assistance (IA). Public Assistance (PA) is available for the counties of Arlington, Clarke, Fairfax, Fauquier, Frederick, Highland, Loudoun, Orange and Rappahannock and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church and Winchester. A Disaster Field Office was opened in Lynchburg on March 31, 2003. The hours of operation are 7:00am – 6:00pm, daily. *The DFO telephone number is 434-832-8440 and the fax number is 434-832-8544.*

The Virginia Farm Service Agency (FSA) has made emergency (EM) physical loss loans available to 10 Virginia counties due to blizzard damages that occurred from Feb 15-Feb 18, 2003. Those counties are Amelia, Augusta, Culpeper, Fauquier, Highland, Page, Prince William, Rappahannock, Rockingham and Shenandoah. In addition to the above counties, 25 other Virginia counties/cities were named as contiguous counties/cities where eligible family farmers may qualify for FSA EM physical loss loan assistance. Those Virginia counties/cities are Albemarle, Bath, Chesterfield, Clarke, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fairfax, Frederick, Greene, Harrisonburg City, Loudoun, Madison, Manassas City, Manassas Park City, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Powhatan, Prince Edward, Rockbridge, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Staunton City, Warren, and Waynesboro City. These loans to Virginia counties/cities may be made available to applicants with a qualifying physical loss in the named counties/cities effective 3/18/03 through 11/18/03.

3. WEATHER

Today Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Warm with highs in the upper 70s. Southwest winds 5 to 15 mph. Chances of rain 40 percent. **Tonight** Clearing. Lows in the 40s. West winds around 10mph becoming north. **Sunday** Mostly sunny through early afternoon. Then increasing cloudiness. Highs in the lower 60s. East winds 5 to 15 mph.

4. CURRENT PRIORITIES:

- A. Implement strategies to distribute information to affected areas.
- B. Coordinate with FEMA for additional Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA).
- C. Coordinate with FEMA for DRC locations.
- D. Obtain signatures for the FEMA and Commonwealth Agreement.
- E. Conduct classes for selected DFO staff.
- F. Establish training component and identify Training Officer for DFO.
- G. Establish a drug and alcohol free environment at disaster field facilities.
- H. *Implement Public assistance strategies.*
- I. *Establish the Task Force for DFO emergencies.*

5. ONGOING ACTIONS/ISSUES:

A. Individual Assistance (IA):

Disaster Recovery Centers (DRC): Reviewing applicant registration information in the declared jurisdictions in order to determine the need for fixed or mobile Disaster Recovery Centers to assist applicants with questions or registration issues.

DRC opened today at the Regional Office of the Virginia Department of Forestry, 210 Riverland Drive, Salem, Virginia 24153 Phone: (540) 387-5461 Fax: (540) 387-5462. Service hours are 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. seven days a week.

Coordination is underway for the opening of a DRC in Buchanan County with local officials and FEMA/State staff.

Consideration is being given to locating a fixed or mobile DRC in the counties of Tazewell and Wise to serve the needs of the declared jurisdictions in SW Virginia.

Initial Damage Assessment (IDA) Validations:

On Wednesday, April 2, we contacted the Emergency Management Coordinators for non-designated jurisdictions. The new information warranted further contact with the following jurisdictions: the counties of **Bland, Lee, Pittsylvania, Augusta, Fauquier, Frederick, Loudoun, Roanoke Co. (Town of Vinton), Shenandoah, Warren, Madison, and the cities of Danville and Winchester.**

As such, on Thursday, April 3, we contacted each jurisdiction to notify them of the Commonwealth's plans to verify their reported damages. Each EMC was provided a description of actions to take in preparation for a visit by a State Representative. All State Representatives have been contacted and are currently coordinating their site visits.

IDA Validations have been completed for the Counties of Augusta, Madison, Shenandoah, and Warren.

We expect all reports by Monday, April 7.

Preliminary Damage Assessments (PDA):

The State Fire Marshall's Office has agreed to assist with the PDAs for Individual Assistance. Training is scheduled for 1300 hours, Sunday, April 6, 2003.

Localities which, as a result of the validated IDA, have sufficient damages in Individual Assistance categories, will be scheduled for PDA's.

IA -DAILY STATUS REPORT

As of COB: 4/04/03

FEMA DR-1458-VA

April 5, 2003

Total Registrations 473

*(Designated/Undesignated)

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|------------|
| | DAILY | CUM |
| Designated Counties | 41 | 433 |

Individuals & Households Overview (IHP)

| | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|
| Eligibility Rate | 72% | Owners | 329 |
| Registrations Referred | 345 | Renters | 80 |
| Registrations Approved | 200 | IHP Max Award | 0 |
| Registrations Ineligible | 73 | | |
| Registrations Withdrawn | 6 | | |
| Registrations Pending | 66 | | |

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Payments Approved | \$255,263.00 |
| Payments Disbursed | \$0.00 |
| Total # Checks Sent | 0 |

Housing Assistance (HA)

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Eligibility Rate | 72% |
| \$ Amount Approved | \$255,263.00 |
| \$ Amount Disbursed | \$0.00 |
| Referrals | 345 |
| Approved | 200 |
| Ineligible | 73 |
| Withdrawn | 6 |
| Pending HA Catagories | 66 |

Other Needs Assistance (ONA)

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| Eligibility Rate | 0% |
| \$ Amount Approved | \$0.00 |
| \$ Amount Disbursed | \$0.00 |
| Referrals | 164 |
| Approved | 0 |
| Ineligible | 55 |
| Withdrawn | 0 |
| Pending ONA Catagories | 109 |

INSPECTION SERVICES

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Inspections Issued (CUM) | 263 |
| Inspections Returned to FEMA | 223 |
| Inspections Outstanding | 23 |
| Inspectors in the Field | 9 |
| Turnaround Time | 1.08 |

SBA

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| Home Applications Issued | 10 |
| Business Applications Issued | 0 |
| Total Applications Issued | 10 |
| Total Applications Approved | 8 |
| Total Applications Pending | 1 |
| Total \$ Approved | \$134,700 |

| Designated Counties and Cities | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|--|--|-----------------|------------|
| Buchanan | 131 | | | Norton City of | 11 |
| Dickenson | 86 | | | Roanoke City of | 38 |
| Montgomery | 23 | | | Salem | 59 |
| Russell | 4 | | | | |
| Tazwell | 14 | | | | |
| Wise | 67 | | | | |
| | | | | TOTAL | 433 |

| Undesignated Counties and Cities | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|-----------|
| Amherst | 1 | | | Pulaski | 1 |
| Arlington | 1 | | | Roanake County | 7 |
| Botetourt | 1 | | | | |
| Fayette | 1 | | | | |
| Halifax | 1 | | | | |
| Henry | 1 | | | | |
| Lee | 1 | | | | |
| Prince William | 1 | | | | |
| | | | | Reg transferred to correct disaster | 0 |
| | | | | Total | 16 |

B. Public Assistance (PA):

- *Twenty-four (24) requests for public assistance have been received.*
- *Joint FEMA/Commonwealth kick-off meetings have been scheduled for Fauquier County, City of Winchester, Winchester Regional Airport Authority, Town of Warrenton, Town of Orange, and Town of Gordonsville.*
- *Completing review of snow data for possible add-on to the Declaration.*

C. Community Relations (CR):

- FEMA / State teams have been deployed to the declared localities and briefed on Community Relations activity for the field.
- Field Officers received training in IHP (Individual and Household Program).
- Field Officers are contacting the Local Emergency Manager in the declared jurisdictions.
- Field Officers are distributing the FEMA telephone registration 1-800-621-FEMA.
- *Field Officers are distributing the FEMA DRC location flyer.*

D. Hazard Mitigation (HM):

- *Hazard mitigation strategy finalized and approved by the FCO, SCO, and DSCO.*
- *Meeting with Roanoke County, Salem County, City of Roanoke, City of Vinton on April 17, 2003 to discuss development of HMGP relocation and elevation “success stories” for publication in Recovery Times, in FEMA Success Stories, and in power point training. General information presentations will also be made. Meetings will also introduce HDF pre-application process for new projects.*
- *An NFIP insurance workshop sponsored by the Central Shenandoah Project Impact will be conducted at the Staunton Holiday Inn on April 9, 2003. The point of contact is Rebecca Joyce at 540-885-5174.*
- *Will finalize the strategy based on the April 17 “success stories” meeting with local governments.*
- *Will finalize the Action Plan and will transfer Plan elements to the April/May strategic calendar.*

- *Will finalize briefing points for the April 7, 2003 meeting with Congressman Boucher's staff regarding the Hurley HMGP Project.*
- *Will hold a floodplain management workshop for local officials, consultants, and others on May 6, 2003, at the Eastern Mennonite Retirement Center in Harrisonburg, VA. The Central Shenandoah Project Impact, the VA Association of Floodplain Managers, and the Disaster Recovery Center will sponsor the workshop. The point of contact for registration information is Jackie Miller at 804-786-0237.*

E. Public Affairs Office (PAO):

- Coordinated FEMA radio interview with Federal Coordinating Officer (FCO); sent media alert to radio and television stations in the western portion of the state encouraging them to visit www.fema.gov/radio to hear comments from FCO about disaster.
- Continued to work with Individual Assistance on disaster recovery center news release; assisted community relations with flyer indicating the location of the center and teleregistration number.
- Continued to draft news releases for future dissemination (topics: first check distribution for housing assistance, add-on counties declared).
- Established contact with Farm Services Agency PIO regarding agricultural declarations.

F. Legislative Liaison:

- *Continue to refine strategies for distribution of information to State senators and delegates.*
- *Develop information for FCO/Congressional meetings next week with district office staffs of Senators Allen and Warner, and Congressman Boucher.*
- *Distribute news release to appropriate senators and delegates on Salem DRC opening.*

G. Information and Planning:

- Completed an e-mail listing of local administrators and emergency coordinators for the purpose of electronic mailing of Situation Reports (SITREP).

RHO
April 6, 2003
1600

Michael M. Cline, SCO